

### **REMARKS**

#### **Status of the Application**

Claims 1, 3-12, and 16-21 are pending in the application and have been examined.

With this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 3, and 4. Applicant submits that the amended claims are fully supported by the disclosure. No new matter has been added.

#### **Claim Rejections**

##### ***Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, and 20 — 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,652,293 to Fuchs *et al.* (“Fuchs”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,443,403 to Weidler *et al.* (“Weidler”). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Addressing claim 1, the combination of Fuchs and Weidler does not disclose or suggest at least “a flat cable which extends on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along the outer surface of said housing ... said flat cable is extended substantially parallel and adjacent to at least a portion of the housing which is perpendicular to a surface of a receiving member in which said housing is mounted thereon, and the flat cable is bent so as to extend along the surface of the receiving member,” as recited in the amended claim.

Fuchs discloses an L-shaped cable end connector for a multi-conductor cable (column 2, line 66-column 3, line 4). However, the multiconductor cable of Fuchs is disposed in the housing, *i.e.*, the molded plastic body 18, and does not extend “on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along

the outer surface of said housing,” as required by claim 1. Weidler discloses an electrical connector assembly formed by inserting a plurality of individual cable connectors into a unitary housing 22 (column 1, lines 9-13; column 2, lines 60-67; Figs. 1 and 2). However, similar to Fuchs, the cables of Weidler are disposed inside the housing 22 of the connector assembly, and do not extend “on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along the outer surface of said housing,” as required by claim 1.

On the other hand, as recited in the claim, a flat cable which “extends on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along the outer surface of said housing ... said flat cable is extended substantially parallel and adjacent to at least a portion of the housing which is perpendicular to a surface of a receiving member in which said housing is mounted thereon, and the flat cable is bent so as to extend along the surface of the receiving member.” Neither Fuchs nor Weidler, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest these features.

Accordingly, since the combination of Fuchs and Weidler fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features, claim 1 is patentable over the combined references. Claim 3 contains features similar to the features recited in claim 1 and is therefore patentable for similar reasons. Claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies from one of claims 1 and 4.

***Claim 4 — 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

Independent claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fuchs and Weidler, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,238,426 to Arnett (“Arnett”). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Claim 4 contains features similar to the features recited in claim 1 which, as established above, are not disclosed by the combination of Fuchs and Weidler. Arnett does not cure the deficiencies of the Fuchs-Weidler combination.

The Examiner relies on Arnett to allegedly disclose the claimed receiving member. Arnett, however, fails to disclose or suggest at least “a flat cable which extends on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along the outer surface of said housing ... said flat cable is extended substantially parallel and adjacent to at least a portion of the housing which is perpendicular to a surface of a receiving member in which said housing is mounted thereon, and the flat cable is bent so as to extend along the surface of the receiving member,” as recited in the amended claim. Therefore, Arnett does not cure the deficiencies of the Fuchs-Weidler combination.

Accordingly, since the combination of Fuchs, Weidler, and Arnett fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features, claim 4 is patentable over the combined references.

***Claims 5, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 21 — 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

Dependent claims 5, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fuchs, Weidler, and Arnett, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,125,852 to Archer (“Archer”). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Dependent claims 5, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 21 incorporate the features of claim 4 which, as established above, are not disclosed or suggested by the combination of Fuchs, Weidler, and Arnett. Archer does not cure these deficiencies.

The Examiner relies on Archer to allegedly disclose the claimed retainer. Archer, however, fails to disclose or suggest at least “a flat cable which extends on an outer surface of said housing in which said terminal side connecting portion is formed thereon, so as to extend along the outer surface of said housing ... said flat cable is extended substantially parallel and adjacent to at least a portion of the housing which is perpendicular to a surface of a receiving member in which said housing is mounted thereon, and the flat cable is bent so as to extend along the surface of the receiving member,” as incorporated into the dependent claims. Therefore, Archer does not cure the deficiencies of the Fuchs-Weidler-Arnett combination.

Accordingly, since the combination of Fuchs, Weidler, Arnett, and Archer fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features, claims 5, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 21 are patentable over the combined references.

### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)  
U.S. Application No.: 10/670,524

Attorney Docket No.: Q77632

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francis G. Plati, Sr.', is written over a horizontal line.

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